

advanced prior. They had projected and opened the North and South Road, which, it was expected, would become a great thoroughfare. Plans already entered upon would, it was thought, make two large places of business in this vicinity. One of these was on the Delaware, at Stockport, the other on the Susquehanna, at Harmony. These expectations, which were never realized, induced the first settlers to purchase at too high prices. Mr. Stanton paid for his first purchase at the rate of one hundred pounds per one hundred acres. He could have bought Government land at the same time at the rate of twenty pounds per one hundred acres.* The growth of the township has therefore, from its origin, been gradual, though uniform. Its population in 1809 was 188, which exceeded that of any other town then in this county. It was not, however, as large, nor as favorably situated to secure a rapid settlement, as many others. It has been diminished on the northeast and south sides to form, or be added to, other townships. It now contains fifty-seven and a half square miles. The population of this town in 1850 was 1,737. At the present time it is about 2,000. The number of taxables in 1855 was 360.† The last assessment gives the following estimate of property:

Real Estate,	\$74,078 00
Personal Property,	24,056 00
Aggregate,	\$98,134 00

* See "Act" of Oct. 3d, 1788, Sergeant's "Land Laws of Pennsylvania," page 274.

† When this town was organized in 1798, there were residing in it thirty-four taxables.

The greater part of the inhabitants are engaged in agriculture. Considerable attention is given to dairying. In 1850 there were made 25 tons of butter, and in 1855, 70 tons. Of grain there was raised in 1850,

12,100 bushels of Oats.
5,400 " Indian Corn.*
6,831 " Buckwheat.

There are ten saw-mills in this town, which cut annually two million feet of lumber; three flouring and grist-mills, having nine run of stones, which grind annually 30,000 bushels of grain; three turning-mills, which use 225,000 feet of lumber; two wagon-shops, five blacksmith-shops, two tanneries, and one carding and cloth-dressing machine.

There are also five stores, in which there is an annual trade of \$50,000.

IX. RELIGIOUS EVENTS.

As we have already seen, the Gospel was early preached in this town. The first minister of Christ who preached the Gospel here, was Elder David Jayne, who then lived on the Tunkhannock. He came by request of Samuel Stanton and others, in July, 1795. The next year, on the 28th of June, a Free Communion Baptist Church was organized. A number of persons of this denomination in New England had joined together, and agreed with Mr. Stanton to proceed into some new country and purchase a lot of land, and they would take portions of it and

* See Appendix, No. 10.

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